



Public Safety Sécurité publique
Canada Canada

Deputy Minister Sous-ministre

Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0P8

For your meeting with: FPT
Ministers & National Indigenous
Organizations
DATE: February 22, 2022
LOCATION: Virtual
TIME: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST

UNCLASSIFIED

DATE:

File No.: PS-035062

RDIMS No.: 4138721

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

**MEETING OF FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL MINISTERS
RESPONSIBLE FOR JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY WITH LEADERS OF
NATIONAL INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS**

(Information only)

ISSUE

Enclosed is your meeting material for your participation for the meeting of Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers Responsible for Justice and Public Safety with Leaders of National Indigenous Organizations (FPTI), which is to be held virtually on February 22, 2022.

CONSIDERATION

Your meeting material package contains:

- Your annotated agenda, which includes sequencing of the items where you will be asked to 'chair' the item on Indigenous Justice Strategy, as well as your recommended key messages (**TAB A**); and
- Biographies of National Indigenous Organization attendees, for your reference (**TAB B**).

Chairing:

The chairing responsibilities have been divided among the 2 Co-chairs: Minister Lametti, and yourself.

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Chairs are responsible for introducing the lead speaker, monitoring the time for the item, moderating the questions via the 'raise hands' virtual function, and for summarizing key decision outcomes at the end of the item.

The division of chairing responsibilities is allocated by selecting the 'chair' which has the least responsive interest for each item.

You will be chairing item 1) Indigenous Justice Strategy. Minister Lametti will chair item 2) Indigenous Policing and Community Safety, as well as the opening and closing of the meeting.

Agenda and Sequencing

The meeting will open with prayers from elders as selected by the National Indigenous Organizations.

Following the prayers, Minister Lametti will invite you to provide opening remarks, followed by his remarks. Minister Miller, Crown-Indigenous Relations will provide remarks related to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

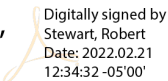
Both agenda items will open by inviting the National Indigenous Organization attendees to provide their respective remarks, before the item is opened to the table for roundtable discussion.

1) Indigenous Justice Strategy: Minister Lametti will lead the federal response. Key messages are provided for your consideration to speak to the Public Safety Canada purview.

2) Indigenous Policing and Community Safety: You will provide the federal response given this item is under the Public Safety Canada purview.

Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or Talal Dakalbab, Assistant Deputy Minister, Crime Prevention Branch, at 613-852-1167.

Stewart,
Robert



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Enclosures: (2)

**VIRTUAL MEETING OF FPT MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR
JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY
AND NATIONAL INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS**

February 22, 2022

ANNOTATED AGENDA

Tuesday, January 22, 2022

1:00 p.m. –
1:25 p.m.

Chair: [Minister Lametti](#) will chair the opening of the meeting.

Opening Prayer

First Nations Elder: Knowledge Keeper Mike Mitchell

Inuit Elder: Elder David Serkoak

Métis Elder: TBC

1:25 p.m. –
1:45 p.m.

Opening Remarks

Sequencing: [Minister Lametti](#) will invite **you** to provide your opening remarks.

Following your remarks, [Minister Lametti](#) will provide his remarks.

Following his remarks, he will invite [Minister Miller, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations](#) to provide remarks on the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG).

Responsive remarks from a Public Safety Canada purview on MMIWG are provided, should you wish to comment following [Minister Miller's](#) remarks.

YOUR RECOMMENDED OPENING REMARKS (10 minutes recommended):

Land Acknowledgement

- Good afternoon everyone.
 - Bonjour à tous.
- I would like to start by acknowledging the land on which I am currently on.
 - Je voudrais commencer par reconnaître le terrain sur lequel je me trouve actuellement.
- *(If joining from Ottawa):*
 - I am joining you today from the traditional, unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe (*ah-nish-uh-NAW-bay*) people.
 - We honour their long history of welcoming many Nations to this beautiful territory and uphold and uplift the voice and values of our Host Nation.
- *(If joining from Toronto):*
 - I am honoured to be joining you today from the traditional, unceded territory of many Nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg (*ah-nish-uh-NAW-bek*), the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee (*ho-den-oh-SHOW-nee*) and the Wendat peoples.
- Many of the ongoing projects in my portfolio seek to improve public safety and improve the lives of the many Nations living here.
 - Un grand nombre des projets en cours dans mon portefeuille visent à améliorer la sécurité publique et à améliorer la vie des nombreuses nations qui vivent ici.

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Introduction

- As this is the first time meeting some of you, I'd like to introduce myself.
 - Comme c'est la première fois que je rencontre certains d'entre vous, je voudrais, tout d'abord, me présenter.
- My name is Marco Mendicino and I am from the Eglinton-Lawrence region in Toronto. I live there with my wife and two daughters. I am a descendent of Italian immigrants to Canada.
- I am the Minister of Public Safety, a role I started in October of 2021. Prior to this, I was the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship. Before entering politics, I served as a federal prosecutor for almost 10 years.
- I have a passion for keeping communities safe and have been an advocate for a variety of issues such as affordable housing and youth-driven programs.
- I am grateful for this opportunity to meet with all of you and am looking forward to the important conversations around the topic of policing and community safety for First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities.
- I am ready to listen and learn, and will keep our conversations top of mind while taking action on these critical topics on our agenda today.
- I also see this is as an opportunity to build longer and more meaningful partnerships with you all as we continue to work together on Indigenous policing and community safety.

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Indigenous Policing and Community Safety

- Indigenous communities, like all communities in Canada, should be places where people and families feel, and are, safe and secure.
 - Les communautés autochtones, comme toutes les communautés au Canada, devraient être des endroits où les gens et les familles se sentent, et sont, en sécurité.
- Well-funded, culturally responsive, and respectful police services are essential for community safety and well-being.
- Indigenous leadership, communities and other key stakeholders have long called for substantive changes to the delivery of policing and community safety services to help address systemic racism and discrimination in the criminal justice system.
- We are all well aware that Indigenous Peoples do not benefit from the same level of policing and community safety services as non-Indigenous people.
 - Indigenous Peoples are overrepresented throughout the criminal justice system.
 - Indigenous communities experience violent crime at a rate nine times higher than non-Indigenous communities.
 - Intimate partner violence is almost 10 times higher.
 - This must change.
- I recognize that all partners share a strong commitment to change and to work together to prioritize community safety programming and investments. Interests and responsibilities for community safety and policing are multi-jurisdictional and span policy, program and legislative considerations.

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- Calls for Justice in the Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and the Calls to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, all point toward the same urgent reform:
 - broad structural changes to policing for Indigenous communities that are equitable to the rest of Canada;
 - investments that achieve substantive equality for Indigenous Peoples; and,
 - stable funding to ensure sustained effort.
- Through Budget 2021, the Government of Canada has committed to investments and reforms in the area of policing and community safety for First Nations, Inuit and Métis People. This includes:
 - investments to stabilize and expand the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program;
 - working with First Nations to co-develop a legislative framework that recognizes First Nations policing as an essential service; and,
 - support Indigenous communities to develop more holistic community-based safety and wellness models.
- I consider this one of the most important priorities in my mandate as Minister of Public Safety and I am committed to continue to build on the work that has begun.

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First Nations and Inuit Policing Program

- Since 1991, policing services in many Indigenous communities have been funded through the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program, a discretionary contribution program with a limited budget. However, the program is oversubscribed and 40% of eligible First Nation and Inuit communities cannot currently access the program. Furthermore, Métis communities have never been eligible for this program.
- The First Nations and Inuit Policing Program was last expanded almost 20 years ago. While funding to stabilize the existing program footprint was provided in 2018, gaps in currently subscribed communities remain.
- We must improve access to culturally responsive policing services, which would address some of the systemic racism and mistreatment of Indigenous Peoples by police. But we have to do more than that. There is no place for racism or bias of any kind within police services in Canada. We must, and will, do better.
- We will work with interested communities to expand the number of communities served by the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program.

Co-development of First Nations Police Services Legislation

- Inequities remain. Indigenous communities continue to compete for limited policing program funding. A discretionary funding program should not be used to fund an essential service, such as policing.
- I have been mandated to continue to advance the priority of co-developing federal legislation for First Nations police services.
- To advance the important work of co-developing First Nations police services legislation, we need to have nation-to-nation discussions. We need to work with and receive input from First Nations partners.

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- We also need collaborative engagement with federal, provincial and territorial partners.
- We cannot develop this legislation alone.
- We recognize the urgency of ensuring that all First Nations communities have policing services that are equitable – in both resources and quality – to those in every other part of Canada. It's really about putting communities first and allowing them to determine their own community safety needs and policing priorities.
- And we know that these police services must also be respectful and accountable to the people that they serve and protect.
- Yet policing reforms are only part of the equation - holistic, wrap-around community safety services and supports are critical so that First Nations can truly thrive and determine and advance their own community safety priorities.

Engagement with Inuit and Métis on Policing Priorities

- While federal legislation will focus on First Nations police services, we will also be undertaking a distinctions-based dialogue with Inuit and Métis to better understand their unique policing priorities, community safety needs and strategies to address current challenges and future needs.
- I look forward to learning how we can work together to help ensure that the unique policing and community safety needs and priorities of Inuit and Métis are recognized and supported.

Wrap-up

- The work we are doing together represents the most revolutionary change in the Indigenous policing and community safety landscape since the advent of the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program.
- I look forward to tangible progress in supporting reconciliation, and working in concert with our First Nations, Inuit and Métis partners and provinces and territories, so that together, we can implement these critical changes that are so long overdue.

REMARKS FOLLOWING MINISTER MILLER'S REMARKS RELATING TO MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS (IF REQUIRED):

- Public Safety Canada is steadfast in its support for the implementation of the Federal Pathway to Address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People and advancing the Calls for Justice.
- Through my mandate and Budget 2021 commitments, I am excited about the progress we are making together including:
 - Supporting Indigenous-led community safety and wellbeing approaches;
 - Working with First Nations partners to co-develop legislation for First Nations police services;
 - Engaging with Inuit and Métis partners on policing priorities; and,
 - Stabilizing and expanding the First Nations Inuit Policing Program.
- However, I know there is more work to be done and I look forward to continuing to take action with all of you on this critically important issue.

MMIWG STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS:

If pressed on the Department's response to the MMIWG Final Report and Calls for Justice, it can be emphasized that Departmental officials continue to support CIRNA in ongoing work to address this national tragedy. Departmental officials are also working hard to implement the significant investments received through the Fall Economic Statement 2020 and Budget 2021 that support implementing the human safety and security and justice-specific commitments in the Federal Pathway. The Department is also staying focused on looking at gaps and continuing to work with Indigenous partners in determining where additional action is required.

1:45 p.m. –
2:50 p.m.

1. Indigenous Justice Strategy

Objective: *Federal Ministers and NIO leaders will discuss the Indigenous Justice Strategy (IJS) and update on the status of engagements to date and next steps. Implementation of this important commitment will take collaboration and cooperation across governments and with Indigenous partners. PT Ministers could share their perspectives on how their jurisdictions would like to participate in this process, and highlight existing mechanisms or tables that could be leveraged to support engagement or future implementation. The focus of the IJS is addressing the crisis systemic racism and overrepresentation of Indigenous Peoples in the justice system. Ministers could also discuss the potential scope and priorities for the IJS from their jurisdictional perspectives.*

Chair: **You will chair this item.**

Sequencing:

You will invite the National Indigenous Organization representatives to provide their remarks, in the following order:

- [Regional Chiefs Terry Teegee/Ghislain Picard, Assembly of First Nations](#); followed by:
- [President Natan Obed, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami](#), followed by:
- [President Cassidy Caron, Métis National Council](#)

Following their remarks, **you** will open the item to a roundtable discussion, beginning by inviting [Minister Lametti](#) to provide his remarks. Following his comments, **you** will invite comments from the table.

Roundtable discussion (35 mins)

YOUR RECOMMENDED KEY MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC SAFETY CANADA PURVIEW:

- My department is unwavering in its commitment to advance reconciliation with Indigenous People. Key to achieving this will include efforts to tackle all forms of systemic racism and discrimination in the criminal justice system.
- The conversations my department are starting with First Nations, Inuit and Metis on policing matters will be an important part of the conversation about Indigenous Justice and how to make our criminal justice system more fair and equitable.
- I expect that the overrepresentation and treatment of Indigenous peoples in the criminal justice system will also be a key topic of conversation in discussions about an Indigenous Justice Strategy. There are challenges and opportunities to do better across the entire system - from enabling safer communities and preventing crime, to supportive correctional models and successful community reintegration, as well as focused supports for victims of crime.
- We have started to make positive changes to make the criminal justice system more fair and inclusive, such as reforming our pardons system to make pardons easier to access and funding community based organizations to help people apply for a pardon. But there is more we can, and must, do.
- I look forward to hearing how Public Safety Canada can support Indigenous-led solutions within the areas of my mandate, that look beyond jurisdiction and towards solutions in real time.
- I fully support Minister Lametti in the development of an Indigenous Justice Strategy as a crucial step in this process, in cooperation with Indigenous partners, provinces, and territories.

RESPONSIVE – If pressed on the role of Public Safety Canada in the development of the Indigenous Justice Strategy:

- Given the responsibilities within my mandate spanning from community safety, crime prevention and policing, through to corrections, pardons, reintegration and reducing recidivism, my officials will be working in lock-step with Justice Canada to support the development of the Indigenous Justice Strategy.

	Although the strategy is in the early stages of development, my officials would welcome the opportunity to facilitate conversations among Indigenous partners, provinces and territories, and portfolio organizations such as the RCMP and Correctional Service of Canada on key areas of focus.
2:50 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.	2. Indigenous Policing and Community Safety <i>Objective: Indigenous leadership, communities and other key stakeholders have long called for substantive changes to the delivery of policing and community safety services that address systemic racism in the criminal justice system. All partners share a strong commitment to change this and to work together to prioritize policing and community safety programming and investments. Interests and responsibilities for community safety and policing are multi-jurisdictional and span across policy, program and legislative considerations. Through Budget 2021, the Government of Canada committed to investments in the area of policing and community safety for First Nations, Inuit and Metis People. As well, the Government of Canada has committed to continue to work with First Nations partners to co-develop a legislative framework for First Nations policing, and continue to engage with Inuit and Métis on policing matters. As work begins to roll-out investments and start engagements, this meeting is an opportunity to discuss the unique policing and community safety priorities of First Nations, Inuit and Metis partners with the objective of sharing perspectives, discussing gaps, and identifying opportunities to collaborate across jurisdictional boundaries in order to look forward.</i> Chair: Minister Lametti will chair this item. Minister Lametti will invite the National Indigenous Organization representatives to provide their remarks, in the following order: President Cassidy Caron, Métis National Council, followed by President Natan Obed, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, followed by: Regional Chiefs Terry Teegee/Ghislain Picard, Assembly of First Nations Following their remarks, Minister Lametti will open the item to a roundtable discussion, beginning with you to provide your remarks. Following your comments, he will invite comments from the table. Roundtable discussion (35 mins)

YOUR RECOMMENDED KEY MESSAGES - POLICING:

General Statement:

- Addressing systemic racism and discrimination in policing is an ongoing priority for the Government of Canada.
- I am committed to advancing Reconciliation and I see opportunities to reform the approach to policing, through investments and through a new federal framework.
- Budget 2021 announced significant funding for Indigenous policing, through investments to expand the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program, to co-develop federal legislation that recognizes First Nations policing as an essential service, and to engage Métis and Inuit on policing matters.

Stabilization and Expansion of the FNIPP:

- While significant program investments to the FNIPP were made in 2018, there were still gaps in program funding, which led to another commitment in Budget 2021 to support, on an ongoing basis, stable and secure Indigenous police services.
- The implementation of the Budget 2021 investment in the FNIPP will be undertaken in two stages, which will introduce new and additional funding every year for the next 4 years.
- We will be working with Indigenous community leaders and provinces and territories to collaboratively identify needs and priorities.

Co-development of federal First Nations police services legislation:

- First Nations in Canada have long called for reform to how First Nations police services are funded and have advocated for federal legislation that recognizes First Nations policing as an essential service.

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- I was mandated to continue to work with First Nations partners to co-develop a legislative framework for First Nations policing. In response, we are working with the AFN as our main co-development partner.
- To help inform the co-development process, we are undertaking engagement with First Nations, First Nations organizations, First Nations police services, First Nations police boards/commissions, First Nations women's, youth and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people and organizations, provinces and territories, subject matter experts and others.
- Canada-led engagement will include:
 1. **Virtual engagement sessions** focusing on key thematic areas;
 2. **An online engagement platform** to complement the virtual engagement sessions; and
 3. **Written submissions** via a dedicated email address.
- We expect to launch our engagement in mid-March 2022.
- Throughout our engagement process, we will work collaboratively through bilateral discussions with First Nations modern treaty and self-government agreement signatories, the First Nations Chiefs of Police Association, the First Nations Police Governance Council, and Provinces and Territories.
- This engagement will culminate in an expert symposium, with a small group of experts on First Nations police services, to further develop what was heard through our engagement process.
- Informed by the perspectives heard through the engagement and collaborative processes, the Government of Canada will co-develop policy options with the AFN to be considered for a federal legislation.

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Engagement with Inuit and Métis on policing matters:

- In order to better understand and identify the unique policing priorities of Inuit and Métis, we are also engaging with Inuit and Métis in winter and spring 2022.
- These discussions will occur concurrent to, but separate from, the co-development process for First Nations police services legislation, but will be largely similar in its form – for example, the same online engagement platform will be used.
- I look forward to hearing the perspectives of the Indigenous leaders here today regarding their perspectives on how policing services can best be responsive to the unique needs of their communities.

RESPONSIVE – if pressed on why federal legislation is focused on First Nations police services:

- There have been many calls for reform in how First Nations police services are funded in Canada, including from First Nations leadership, Chiefs of Police and organizations.
- Federal legislation will focus on First Nations police services as a first step, recognizing the need for change is greatest for these police services who may face difficulties in long-term planning, recruitment and retention of officers due to the limitations of a “program” model.
- However, the federal government will continue to work with Inuit and Métis organizations and leaders, as well as provinces and territories, to identify and advance the policing priorities of these groups.

RESPONSIVE – if pressed on purpose and Intent of Federal First Nations Police Services Legislation

- While it is crucial that the purpose and intent of federal legislation in this area be informed by the views and perspectives of First Nations themselves, it is clear that recognizing First Nation police services as essential services will involve considerations about stable and adequate funding for First Nations police services.

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- While funding levels are important, it is also about how this funding is delivered.
 - The current approach of utilizing a Grant and Contribution (G&C) program for an essential service, such as policing, incapacitates First Nations police services to conduct effective long-term planning, and prevents First Nations to pursue self-determination and self-governance goals.
- Although the focus of federal legislative efforts at this time will be on First Nations police services, new investments in the FNIPP through Budget 2021, including additional officers and expansion in the Territories, will support FNIPP-funded policing services, including those delivered by the RCMP. In addition, dedicated discussions with the Territories and with Inuit and Métis may include exploring ways to improve RCMP service delivery.

RESPONSIVE – if pressed on First Nations Jurisdiction over Policing

- We have heard from the AFN and other First Nations their interest in reclaiming full jurisdiction over policing and approach this through a section 35 lens.
- This said, we also acknowledge that PTs have legislative responsibility over the administration of justice, including policing. Federal First Nations police services legislation intends to complement, and not replace, PT legislation.
- We are considering carefully all of the views we are hearing now, leading up to our engagement sessions, as well as during our engagement process, which will inform the co-development of options for federal legislation.

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YOUR RECOMMENDED KEY MESSAGES – COMMUNITY SAFETY:

General Statements:

- Public Safety Canada is supporting Indigenous-led community safety and wellbeing approaches through Budget 2021 investments of \$64.6 million over five years, and \$18.1 million ongoing, to enhance Indigenous-led crime prevention strategies and community safety services including expansion of the Aboriginal Community Safety Planning Initiative.
- Indigenous communities are best placed to identify and address their unique community safety needs. These recent investments will help support communities in these efforts, and to provide funding for the crime prevention elements of these plans.
- Budget 2021 also invested in Indigenous Services Canada's new *Pathways to Safe Indigenous Communities Initiative*. Public Safety and Indigenous Services Canada are working in partnership to help provide wrap around supports to promote safety and healthy Indigenous communities.
- Combined, advancing Indigenous policing reforms and rolling out investments in community safety and well-being will promote our shared objective of safe, healthy and productive communities, where everyone has an opportunity to actively participate and meet their needs (i.e., for education, health, food, housing, employment, and social/cultural expression).
- Our Government remains commitment to support healing and reconciliation, and the safety and well-being of Indigenous communities, as called for in the *Final Report of the Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*.
- First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities are eligible participants in these programs.

RESPONSIVE – if pressed on improved access to community safety investments for Indigenous communities:

- The Aboriginal Community Safety Planning Initiative and the Northern and Indigenous Crime Prevention Fund are tailored and responsive programs designed to address Indigenous communities' safety issues.

- Beginning in fiscal year 2022-2023, Public Safety is moving toward a more coordinated approach of pairing community safety needs as identified through the community-led ACSPI process with dedicated Indigenous funding from the NICPF.
- Indigenous not-for-profit organizations and communities, as well as municipalities and Aboriginal governments, and Canadian universities are eligible funding recipients under the NICPF.
- Crown Corporations, for-profit groups and individuals are not eligible for funding under the ACSDCP.
- Targeted outreach and engagement efforts are currently ongoing with Inuit and Métis communities.

RESPONSIVE – if pressed on whether investments in community safety are inadequate:

- The Aboriginal Community Safety Planning Initiative provides \$40.4 million over 5 years, \$11.6 million on-going.
- The Northern and Indigenous Crime Prevention Fund provides \$22.3 million over 5 years and \$6.5 million on-going.
- These investments will be delivered through a community-driven approach and will support integrated, multi-sectorial approaches to address community safety. Programming will help to develop efficiencies between existing programs and increase capacity within Indigenous communities to ensure greater program sustainability.

RESPONSIVE – if pressed on community safety investments to support Indigenous healing related to MMIWG, ongoing discovery of mass graves, impact of residential schools, mental health, and/or reconciliation:

- These investments are community-specific. They will directly support community-identified safety priorities, including, where appropriate, healing approaches.
- Additionally, the investments will target integrated, multi-sectoral approaches, such as approaches that integrate community safety services with healing, health, and/or wellness services.
- Investments are based on communities priorities and will address Indigenous healing to the extent that individual communities and organizations desire such services. This approach is rooted in supporting Indigenous self-determination.

	<u><i>For Reference: Policing Considerations / Relevant NIO/PT Positions:</i></u> The AFN is Canada’s main co-development partner. The organization has recently signaled that it sees this legislation as a means towards reclaiming First Nations jurisdiction over policing and that policing is a section 35 Aboriginal right under the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i>. This must be measured against existing PT legislative authority over the administration of justice, including policing, and strong PT involvement in the area. The AFN is undertaking its own engagement process, both via its regional organizations and nationally-led activities such as a National Justice and Policing Forum. In addition, PTs have indicated support for engagement with Inuit and Métis to discuss their policing interests and priorities. <u><i>For Reference: Gangs Considerations / Relevant NIO/PT Positions:</i></u> Issues raised during the development of Indigenous community safety plans can help identify emerging and important issues for FPT engagement, and including opportunities for collaboration and need for resources. To date, Indigenous community safety planning discussions have raised challenges with negative interactions with industry, law enforcement, and criminal elements from within and without the community, substance abuse, human trafficking, remoteness and policing response times, gang-related activity, food security, and the capacity to develop and maintain modest livelihoods. Many jurisdictions are aware of Public Safety Canada’s Aboriginal Community Safety Planning Initiative and are advocates for the program and its’ positive outcomes for Indigenous community safety. First Nations Chief Doris Bill from Yukon has been an outspoken advocate of the program, as well as the community safety officer program, and is sharing the experience of her community with other Indigenous communities.
3:55 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks Chair: Minister Lametti will invite final comments and adjourn the meeting.

ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Terry Teegee, Regional Chief for British Columbia



Terry Teegee of the Takla Nation is the elected Regional Chief of the British Columbia Assembly for the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), and is proudly serving his second term in this position.

As Regional Chief, he was an instrumental voice in the development and historic passing of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.

Previous to become the Regional Chief, Terry was the elected Tribal Chief of the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council (CSTC) from 2012-2017. Previous to his political aspirations, Terry held forestry and natural resources roles with the CSTC and Takla Nation. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Natural Resources Management (Forestry) and also a Natural Resources Technology Diploma.

Terry's strong leadership, both provincially and nationally, was vital on the following portfolios and issues:

- AFN Chair of Chiefs Committee include: Economic Development, Employment and Training, and Cannabis
- Co-Chair of the AFN National Fisheries Committee
- Co-Lead on the AFN Justice Portfolio
- Lead for Gaming Nationally and member of BC First Nation Gaming Commission
- Co-Chair of the Forestry Sub-Committee with Province of BC
- Co-Chair for the Champions Table with BC Business Council
- The Political Lead for First Nations Leadership Council for co-developed Environmental Assessment Act (Bill 51)
- Tripartite Working Group member to implement Bill C-92, Indigenous Child Welfare Jurisdiction Bill to implement the Commitment Document Provincially
- AFN Representative on the UN Convention of Biodiversity

ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Ghislain Picard, Regional Chief for Quebec-Labrador



Ghislain Picard is Innu from the community of Pessamit, and is the elected Regional Chief of the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador for the Assembly of First Nations (AFN). He has been holding this appointment since 1992, and he has embarked in his sixth term of office.

Between 1976 and 1989, he dedicated most of his time in the area of communications. He was responsible for communications and media relations for the Conseil Atikamekw Montagnais (CAM). He published a periodical called “Tepatshimuwin” intended for Atikamekw and Innu communities.

At the beginning of the 80’s, Mr. Picard was President of the Quebec Native Friendship Center. In 1983, he was very active to implement a community radio stations network for his nation. He is one of the founding members of the Société de communication atikamekw et montagnaise (SOCAM), which produces radio shows in Aboriginal language.

In the middle of the 80’s, Mr. Picard participated to a UNESCO international study on the role of communications in rural communities.

After he was appointed Vice-President of the CAM in 1989, he was elected Regional Chief of the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador (AFNQL) in 1992. He has been the AFNQL Regional Chief since then. As AFNQL Chief, he sits on the Assembly of First Nations’ Executive Committee and Management Committee and he is the spokesperson for the Comprehensive claims, Urban population and International Issues portfolios. On July 15, 2014 in Halifax, the Chiefs in Assembly unanimously appointed him as National Chief. He occupied this function until December 2014 and then resumed his position as Chief of the AFNQL.

On October 28, 2003, Mr. Picard received the National Order of Quebec. On January 24, 2005, he received the distinguished insignia of Chevalier de la Légion d’Honneur from the Consul Général de France.

MÉTIS NATIONAL COUNCIL
Cassidy Caron, President



On September 30, 2021, **Cassidy Caron** was the first ever woman to be elected President of the Métis National Council.

She has roots in the historic Métis communities of Batoche and St. Louis, Saskatchewan. She grew up closely connected to her Métis traditions, heritage and culture and is driven by her values of respect, honesty and responsibility.

As a Nation builder, President Caron's goal is to explore and utilize innovative approaches to community development which promote effective collaboration and understanding between Indigenous peoples and all Canadians.

President Caron gained over three and a half years of professional research and program evaluation experience working with an award winning, all-Indigenous research and program evaluation firm. Her work as a consultant has focused on researching and evaluating programs and initiatives implemented in, by and for Indigenous communities throughout Canada. She branched off as an independent consultant in the fall of 2018, and is continuing to work with programs that aim to serve and support Indigenous peoples and communities.

In 2019, she joined First Peoples Group's circle of Indigenous consultants, working on community-based research with a specific focus on the utilization of Indigenous research methodologies, program evaluation, policy development, meeting and workshop facilitation and strategic planning to the team.

President Caron served a four-year term as a provincially-elected representative of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC), serving as the Provincial Métis Youth Chair and MNBC Minister Responsible for Youth, where she gained valuable experience as an advocate for the Métis people working closely with cabinet ministers, senior officials and ministerial special representatives to negotiate and design Métis youth-specific funding provisions and policy considerations at the provincial and national levels.

INUIT TAPIRIIT KANATAMI

Natan Obed, President



Natan Obed became the President of the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami in 2015.

He is originally from Nain, the northernmost community in Labrador's Nunatsiavut region, and now lives in Ottawa. For 10 years he lived in Iqaluit, Nunavut, and worked as the Director of Social and Cultural Development for Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

President Obed has devoted his career to working with Inuit representational organizations to improve the wellbeing of Inuit in Canada.